

Second Paper Assignment

Answer **One** of the Following Two Questions

(1) (a) Describe J. S. Mill's principle of utility. (b) Explain what Mill means when he says that the principle of utility is the "First Principle" of morality. (c) Distinguish rule utilitarianism from act utilitarianism. (d) Describe Bernard Williams' hypothetical case in which "George the chemist" faces a moral dilemma. (e) Does the case of George the chemist show that some forms of utilitarianism are false? (If) If so, which ones? If not, why not? (g) How might a normative rule utilitarian who still thinks that happiness is the point of morality justify acting in accordance with a rule (on a particular occasion) when he knows that if he made an exception to that rule on that particular occasion alone this would lead to more happiness than would result if he did not make an exception on that occasion?

(2) According to Kant when does an action truly display moral worth? (Make sure when answering this question to discuss Kant's analysis of the different kinds of motives a shopkeeper might have for charging the same price to all his customers.) What, according to Kant, is the difference between acting in *accordance* with duty and acting *from* duty? Why does Kant think that we only deserve moral praise when we act from duty? How would Kant respond to the claim that respect for the moral law is an *inclination* just like hunger, lust, or a desire for the approval of others?

Due Monday, November 24th in class

The paper must be 4-5 pages long, double-spaced text in a normal font (e.g. Times New Roman 12 pt.), with normal tabs and margins (e.g. Microsoft Word's default settings).